Issue 18 – August 27, 2024

Crop Report

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Weekly Provincial Summary

- Agro-Manitoba received variable amounts of precipitation over the past seven days. Precipitation for the past week ranged from 0.6 mm to 77.8 mm (Table 1) with areas of the Northwest and Southwest regions accumulating the largest amounts of precipitation. Minitonas (77.8 mm) received the most precipitation.

Table 1. Range of seven-day accumulated precipitation (August 19 - 25) in Manitoba's Agricultural Regions.

Region	Wettest Location last Week	Driest Location last Week
Central	Baldur (18.0 mm)	Portage (2.5 mm)
Eastern	Sprague (17.1 mm)	Steinbach, Richer (0.6 mm)
Interlake	Fisherton (49.1 mm)	Woodlands (1.6 mm)
Northwest	Minitonas (77.8 mm)	Birch River (1.5 mm)
Southwest	Birtle (68.3 mm)	Carberry EC (2.7 mm)

- Climate normals for total accumulated precipitation from May 1 to August 25 range from 216.5 mm to 317.9 mm and are based on 30-year historical data. Precipitation accumulation in most areas have exceeded 100% of normal precipitation since May 1. Much of the Central region has accumulated more than 120% compared to the 30-year average.

- Soil Moisture 0 - 30 cm shows a regional representation of soil moisture conditions for the top 30 cm on August 25, 2024 relative to field capacity. Soil moisture is variable across agro-Manitoba with the majority showing optimal or wet soil moisture conditions at the surface depths. Northern areas of the Eastern region are showing dry to very dry conditions.

- Percent Normal Accumulated Growing Degree Days represents the variation of accumulated Growing Degree Days (GDD) from the historical record over a 30-year period from May 1 – August 25, 2024. GDD Accumulation is between 95% and 105% of normal for the majority of agro-Manitoba.

- To find interactive soil temperature/moisture and air temperature information see Agri-Maps Current Weather viewer.

Report compiled by Manitoba Agriculture
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Manitoba

Table 2: Percentage of Harvest Completion by Crop and Region to August 26, 2024

Crop	Southwest	Northwest	Central	Eastern	Interlake	MB AVG
Winter Wheat	90%	60%	99%	100%	70%	87%
Fall Rye	90%	60%	99%	100%	75%	87%
Spring Wheat	10%	4%	25%	5%	5%	13%
Barley	15%	1%	50%	-	5%	22%
Oats	1%	-	15%	5%	5%	6%
Field Pea	65%	40%	75%	-	65%	59%
Canola	-	-	10%	-	-	3%
Potatoes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regional AVG	6%	3%	16%	3%	4%	8%

Crops still unharvested, or negligible acres displayed as – or omitted from this table.

Overview

Harvest continues in winter cereals, spring cereals, and peas. A limited number of canola fields have been harvested, mostly in the Central and Eastern regions. Yield reports range from 40-110 bu/acre for fall rye and winter wheat, 25-90 bu/acre in spring wheat, 80-180 bu/acre in oat, and 90-115 bu/acre in barley. Reported pea yields range from 30-65 bu/acre. Corn fields range from silking to milk stage, with the earliest fields in the dough stage. The earliest sunflowers have completed flowering and are in the R7 stage. Most flax is in the brown capsule stage, with the most advanced flax in the seed ripe stage. The majority of soybeans range from the R5 to R6 stage.

Next week's crop report will be available on Wednesday, September 4.

Cereals

- Harvest continues in fall rye and winter wheat, with close to 90% of acres estimated as harvested. Reported yields range from 40 to 90 bu/acre for winter wheat and fall rye in the North Interlake and Eastern regions, and 80 to 110 bu/acre for fall rye in the South Interlake and Central regions.
- Spring cereal harvest continues, 13% of wheat, 22% of barley, and 6% of oats estimated as complete.
- Spring wheat yield estimates range from 60 to 90 bu/acre, with an average of 70 bu/acre in the Central and Eastern regions. In the North Interlake, yields range from 25 to 55 bu/acre, and up to 70 bu/acre in the South Interlake. Some downgrading of wheat due to FHB and bleaching.
- Oat yield estimates range from 80-180 bu/acre, with generally good bushel weights.
- Barley yields range from 90 to 115 bu/acre
- Corn ranges from the R1 (silking) to R3 (milk) stage, with some advanced fields at R4 (dough).
- Winter cereal seeding has started.

Table 3: Spring Wheat Quality Rating by Region

	Southwest	Northwest	Central	Eastern	Interlake
Excellent	10%	20%	20%	-	-
Good	55%	60%	60%	70%	70%
Fair	30%	15%	15%	30%	30%
Poor	5%	5%	5%	-	-
Very Poor	-	-	-	-	-

Oilseeds

- Canola harvest has started in the Central and Eastern regions. Swathing and pre-harvest applications are ongoing throughout the province. Latest seeded fields range from flowering to pod-fill. Flea beetle and lygus numbers have increased in parts of the province.
- The earliest seeded sunflowers are at R7, with later seeded fields in the late R5 stage (flowering).
- Most flax fields are in growth stage 11 (brown capsule), with the most advanced flax as stage 12 (seed ripe).

Pulses and Soybeans

- Field pea harvest is ongoing, with approximately 60% of acres estimated as complete. Yield reports range from 30 to 65 bu/acre.
- Soybeans in the Southwest, Northwest, Central and Eastern regions are at the R5 to R6 stage. In the Interlake most soybeans are at the R4 stage. Some insecticide applications for aphids have occurred.

Forages & Livestock

Forages

- Warm weather and rainfall in the areas that received it have improved forage growth. Moisture is welcome to replenish root reserves for winter.
- Good progress has been made putting up hay and silage. Hay harvest is nearly complete, work on native stands and slough hay continues.
- Dairy producers have completed second cut of alfalfa fields and are reporting good yields, many have completed a third cut in the Central region.
- First cut beef hay harvest is complete, and producers are continuing with second cut of tame hay. In some areas second cut of tame hay is complete.
- The high humidity and heavy morning dew has made it difficult for hay to dry, which will lower quality. More producers than typical have opted to use grass intended for hay as bale silage.
- Cereal silage continues and yields look to be average to above average.
- Many producers are bailing straw as cereal harvest continues.
- When contemplating harvesting alfalfa, producers need to be mindful of the critical harvest fall period (critical harvest fall period for alfalfa).

Livestock

- Pastures have improved in areas that received recent rainfall.
- Pastures in the Southwest area are slowing due to recent hot and dry conditions, with rotationally grazed pastures performing best in the drier conditions. Pasture management practices are making a difference, but recent rains may not help overgrazed pastures.
- Producers are attempting to control fly numbers on pasture and are looking for pink eye and foot rot where conditions remain wet underfoot.
- Dugouts are at 65 to 75% of normal capacity, and water supplies are reported to be adequate.

Regional Comments

Southwest

The southwest region had hot and humid weather with thunderstorms throughout the week. A major system went through the Foxwarren area early Saturday morning. The rain is delaying harvest, and high winds caused crops to lodge making harvest and dry down difficult.

Winter wheat and fall rye harvest is close to complete with average to above average yields being reported in fall rye and average yields being reported in winter wheat. Spring cereals are maturing quickly. Most crops have received preharvest and are waiting for dry down. Yields look to be average with good quality. Barley is ripening rapidly due to the hot weather and some fields have been harvested with early yield estimates looking to be average. Recent weather events have caused some barley fields to start breaking down and some producers have started swathing to limit losses.

Producers have made good progress with the pea harvest with yields reported to be average so far with recent wet conditions making harvest difficult. Soybean crops are at the R5 stage of development. Recent rainfall was well timed to help in pod fill and development.

Canola ranges from the pod fill to seed colour change stage, with most crops in seed colour change. Preharvest applications have started. Sclerotinia has become more noticeable in the fields especially those that did not have fungicide application. Recent weather has caused lodging in several fields. No major insect issues reported.

Flax fields are in the brown capsule stage. Sunflowers are in the R 5.9 to 6 growth stage. Corn is in the R2 to R3 stage and benefiting from the hot weather and rain.

Northwest

High temperatures for the week, with unsettled weather over the weekend. Intense thunderstorms on Saturday brought heavy rains and strong winds to most of the region. There are reports of crop lodging and localized hail, with damage unknown at this time. Highest accumulated precipitation for the week was at Minitonas station with 77.8 mm and lowest precipitation was at Birch River station with 1.6 mm. Highest temperature was at Ashville station at 31.7°C and lowest recorded overnight temperature was at Birch River station at 9.7°C.

Winter wheat and fall rye are being harvested and approximately 60% complete. Spring wheat is advancing towards maturity. Later seeded fields continue to catch up. Pre-harvest glyphosate is occurring as stages are reached. Harvest is just starting to come along as fields reach maturity.

Most field peas are in the R7 stage and desiccated and now await the appropriate preharvest interval and moisture dry down for harvest. Field pea harvest is approximately 40% complete. Average yields are 50-55 bu/acre.

Canola fields continue to advance towards maturity. Swathing and desiccation started last week on earliest maturing fields. Desiccation continues as stages are reached. Flea beetles have increased again.

Soybean crops are in R5 to R6 stage and looking good. Recent heat has helped advance the crops quickly. Recent rain will have helped pod fill.

Central

The week was warm and dry. Highs were above 30ºC, and most locations received below 10 mm of rain. These conditions allowed for rapid advancement of field activities, including preharvest herbicide application, swathing and harvest of cereals and canola, baling, residue and field management operations, and the planting of cover crops.

Harvest is complete in fall rye and winter wheat, aside from a very small number of fields. Fall rye yields were mostly in the range of 80 – 110 bu/acre.

Most spring cereals are at physiological maturity. Spring wheat harvest progress varies greatly with some producers in the south of the central region finished cereal harvest, and some in the north of the region yet to begin or in the very early stages of harvest. Early yields are in the range of 60 to 90 bu/acre, with an average of 70 bu/acre. Many farms have reported increased root rot this year, and some fields have elevated levels of ergot bodies around field edges. Levels of fusarium head blight (FHB) vary greatly with some fields having very little, to more substantial issues in some fields.

Barley harvest is progressing rapidly, although progress varies greatly across the region. Preliminary yields are in the range of 90 to 115 bu/acre; however, the highest yielding crops are as high as 130 bu/acre. Most oats are at hard dough to physiological maturity with the earliest fields being swathed and harvested. Early yields reported in the range of 110 to 180 bu/acre, with an average of around 130 bu/acre. There is a greater volume of straw being reported on many farms this year.

Field pea harvest is underway with yields in the range of 30 to 55 bu/acre. Harvest has been difficult for some due to many pea crops ripening unevenly, with areas of the field previously saturated maturing more rapidly than freer draining areas of the field. This has been compounded due to higher levels of stem and root diseases this year.

Soybeans are at the end of R5 (beginning seed), with most now at R6 (full seed). The crop has benefited from the recent rainfall. Some producers have noted damage from green cloverworm, soybean aphid and grasshoppers. However, levels typically vary greatly within the field and in most cases are below economic thresholds. A small number of producers did opt to control soybean aphids with an insecticide. Concern for insect pests is lessening as the crop progresses.

Canola ranges from pod fill, to physiological maturity and dry down. Preharvest herbicide applications are continuing, and several of the most advanced fields have been harvested. Warm conditions at flowering have led to increased incidence of heat blast in some fields. Sclerotinia, blackleg, verticillium stripe, and aster yellows are being observed in crops. Late season flea beetles are being noticed by producers, as are elevated levels of lygus bugs.

Flax is at stage 11 (brown capsule), with the most advanced fields now at stage 12 (seed ripe). Many flax fields have multiple crop stages within the field, likely as a result of waterlogging early in the season. Most of the sunflower is between R6 (seed development) and R7 (back of head turning pale yellow). However, there are still many fields in late R5 stages (flowering). The crop has benefitted from the available soil moisture over the past weeks, and the crop has been progressing well.

Silage and grain corn growth has benefitted from the rainfall over recent weeks and the recent warm temperatures, making rapid progress and improving in appearance. Most corn fields are from late blister (R2) to milk (R3), but some of the later planted fields are still silking (R1). The most advanced fields have reached R4 (dough).

Eastern

Districts across the Eastern region received trace amounts to less than 5 mm of rainfall with many areas receiving no rain over the reporting period. There were a few cases of isolated storms producing accumulations greater than 20 mm but these were rare. Overall, last week was warm and humid with the weekend being particularly hot and very humid. Although there were a few rainfall interruptions, producers made good progress on harvesting and field work over the reporting period, if they had fields that were ready.

Harvest of fall rye and winter wheat has been completed. Yield estimates ranged from 40 to 90 bu/acre with an average of 75 bu/acre with good quality. Pre-harvest herbicide applications and/or swathing continued with spring cereals. About 5% of spring wheat and oat acres were harvested with early yield and quality reports for spring wheat suggesting an average yield of 70 bu/acre and a range in protein levels from below 13.5% to 15%. Some downgrading to #2 wheat due to bleaching has been noted. Early yield and quality reports on oats suggested an average yield of 130 bu/acre with generally good bushel weight. The last fields of spring cereals seeded were mostly at hard dough.

Corn growth stages range from late blister to milk depending on planting date and hybrid. On some very early seeded fields planted to earlier maturing hybrids kernels in the dough growth stage could be found.

In most fields soybean growth stage ranged from late R5 (beginning seed) to R6 (full seed). The presence of soybean aphids, green cloverworms and grasshoppers continues to be noted and a limited number of insecticide applications for soybean aphids have occurred. Concern is expected to start to lessen this week in those crops advancing to the R6 growth stage. Crop condition was generally rated as good.

A few fields of the earliest seeded canola were harvested last week but representative yield and quality data is not available. Pre-harvest herbicide applications and swathing continue in the earlier seeded canola. The latest fields are well into pod filling with crops demonstrating straw colour change. A limited amount of insecticide applications to control lygus bug occurred last week. A few fields have shown high numbers of flea beetles, often existing within distinct hot spot areas of affected fields.

Field peas stands were at the R7 (full maturity) growth stage, dried down and ready to harvest. Flax fields moved into growth stage 11 (brown capsule) with some areas within fields approaching growth stage 12 (seed ripe). Earlier seeded sunflower fields that were less affected by excess moisture ranged from the R6 (flowering completed/ray flowers wilted) to R7 (back of the head turning pale yellow) growth stages. Later seeded fields generally range from later R5 (flowering) to R6 growth stages.

Interlake

Rainfall was variable, with amounts ranging from less than 5 mm in parts of the south Interlake to 49 mm in Fisherton. High temperatures continued for most of the week, with highs above 28°C in all areas.

Harvest continues but with minimal delays following recent showers in the Interlake region on Thursday. Harvest is well advanced in parts of the south Interlake region, and less advanced in the North Interlake. In general, harvest progress varies across the region depending on moisture and seeding dates. Swathing and desiccation of crops continues.

Winter wheat and fall rye harvest is about 75% complete, with yields reported to range from 40 to 90 bu/acre in the North Interlake and 80 to 100 bu/acre in the South Interlake. Timothy seed, fescue seed, and perennial ryegrass harvest is complete. Winter cereal seeding has just started.

Spring wheat harvest has started, with 5% of acres estimated as complete. Early yield reports are 25 to 55 bu/acre in the North Interlake and ranging up to 70 bu/acre in the South Interlake. Spring wheat desiccation and pre-harvest applications continue. Spring wheat quality is rated as good across the region. Harvest has started in barley and oats, with early oat yield estimates ranging from 80 to 120 bu/acre. Most grain corn is at the milk stage, with later seeded fields at tasseling.

Pea harvest is ongoing with an estimated 75% of acres completed. Early yield reports range from 45 to 65 bu/acre with good quality. Soybeans continue to flower; most advanced fields are R3 to R5, with most fields in the R4 stage. Minimal signs of iron deficiency chlorosis (IDC) remain but noticeable foliar diseases including bacteria blight and septoria brown spot.

Canola is in the early ripening stages and swathing and pre-harvest applications have started. Some fields are being sprayed for Lygus bugs. Blackleg and sclerotinia stem rot is noticeable in canola fields but not at concerning levels. Sunflowers are as advanced as R6 stage. Flax is at growth stage 10 to 11.